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separation of the persons, and points out clearly the essential difference between the two ; and thereafter confines himself to the dissolution of the marriage bond, and its resultant effects on the parties and their property. This rids us of a vast deal of obsolete learning, which, in earlier treatises, only served to confuse, and creates a stronger confidence in the legal acumen of the author.

The jurisdiction of the courts in suits for divorce as based on the domicile of the parties is very satisfactorily treated, as is also the subject of causes for divorce, particularly that of desertion. The discussion of the various acts which will constitute desertion calls for special commendation ; for in no other work is it so logical, clear and complete as in this. The same may with equal truth be said of the chapters which treat of the question of cruelty. Another admirable feature of the work is the treatment of the subject of practice in divorce cases, one which, owing to its many peculiarities, needs much fuller discussion than is accorded it by others. In fact, there is but little improvement to suggest except that in another edition more space should be given to the chapter which deals with decrees in divorce. The present chapter on that subject might be expanded with advantage.

There is one other feature deserving of notice, and that is, that the author is not hampered by self-constituted authority. If his judgment does not approve of that which has been decided by the courts, or been expressed by other authors, he does not hesitate to say so ; and gives the reasons for his own opinion, in language that is in many cases convincing.

There is one blemish, however, that Mr. Nelson might have avoided. He accepts the definition of the courts that marriage is a status ; and then proceeds on that basis to prove that a suit against a non-resident defendant is a proceeding *in rem*. This he does by deduction from the nature of the proceedings, which are based upon the very doctrine he is attempting to demonstrate. It would be hard to find a prettier example of reasoning in a circle.

Ardemus Stewart.

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ENGLISH LAW OF CONTRACT AND OF AGENCY IN ITS RELATION TO CONTRACT. By SIR WILLIAM R. ANSON, Bart, D. C. L. Eighth Edition. First American Copyright Edition, with Notes. By ERNEST W. HUFFCUT, Professor in Cornell University Law School. New York and London : Macmillan & Co. 1896.

It is with no small degree of pleasure that the writer avails himself of the opportunity afforded, of expressing with no uncertain sound the highest commendation of this invaluable work of Mr. Anson. It is to-day universally recognized as a model text-book and stands high in the esteem of the many students who have derived from it the foundation of their knowledge of the law of contracts. To have so successfully compressed in the small com-

pass of less than five hundred pages a complete exposition of the principles which govern the contractual obligation from its beginning to its end, to have shown how a contract is made, what is necessary to make it binding, whom it may affect, how it may be interpreted, and how it may be discharged, was to accomplish a task, which, we venture to assert, has not been equally well done in any other branch of the law.

But of necessity, since it is an English work the American student naturally desires annotations of the cases of his own country, and it is matter of congratulation to us that in this present edition we have them from a man of no less reputation and experience than Professor Huffcut. He has recognized the fact that the original text was not intended to be a digest of cases but a concise exposition of legal principles, and has therefore cited but few, and yet the most important cases.

The book has already made for itself a reputation and with this present American edition it cannot but continue to grow in favor with law students of this country.

B. F. P.

A TREATISE ON EXTRAORDINARY LEGAL REMEDIES, EMBRACING MANDAMUS, QUO WARRANTO AND PROHIBITION. By JAMES L. HIGH. Third Edition. Chicago: Callahan & Co. 1896.

The first edition of this work was published in 1874, the second in 1884, and now, twelve years later, we have the third edition. In this interval there have appeared, Mr. High states in the preface, nearly twelve hundred decisions upon the topics of which he treats, thus necessitating "a thorough revision of the entire work."

The plan upon which Mr. High proceeds in this work is to state the principles which he has gathered from the decisions, at the beginning of each chapter and subdivision, and then to illustrate and support such principles by statements of actual decisions digested from the cases. This, for example, the headings for the first division of the second chapter will illustrate. Almost every separate section exhibits the same method: they begin with a statement of a principle, they end with an abstract of the cases illustrating it.

The labor expended has evidently been painstaking, thorough and able. There has been no attempt to collect and state a vast number of cases, with a superficial and indefinite statement of the conclusions to be drawn therefrom. On the contrary, it is evident that Mr. High has first mastered the principles upon the subjects of which he treats, and then has stated those principles clearly and exactly. We have, therefore, his conclusions and cases illustrative of their meaning; we are not shown the processes of reasoning by which he arrived at them.

With these facts concerning the work in one's mind, it is interesting to note just what have been the changes made in the second and third editions. Two thousand decisions have, as Mr. High states, been rendered since the first edition. This number is